



## Former Northwestern Barrel Superfund Site Status of Activities

**South Milwaukee, Wisconsin**

**September 1999**

This fact sheet summarizes U.S. EPA's plans for soil excavation along the northwest fence on site property owned by Towne Realty, Inc. This work is being conducted as part of the cleanup of the Former Northwestern Barrel site, located just off of 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue and Marina Road in South Milwaukee.

### What Work Will Be Done Along the Northwest Fence?

As part of the continuing cleanup efforts at the site, soil along the northwest fence will be excavated. Cleanup contractors will conduct the following work activities:

- √ photograph the gardens and other vegetation located on and near the property boundary between the Marina Cliff Condominiums and Towne Realty, Inc;
- √ move a portion of the fence from its current location to the property line (see map);
- √ scrape surface soil from the floors of the former building foundation, excavate the floors, and determine if there is contaminated soil beneath the floors;
- √ if contaminated soils are found beneath the former building foundations, excavate and remove the foundations;
- √ excavate subsurface soils to a depth of 4 feet below the ground surface or as needed to remove soil contamination;
- √ move excavated soils to a staging area on the southeast corner of the site to allow for sampling and eventual removal to an off-site disposal facility;
- √ conduct sampling of the excavated area to ensure cleanup levels have been met;
- √ monitor for dust, vapors, noise and vibrations;
- √ re-grade the excavated area, plant seed and mulch.

### Who Will Perform the Work?

The work will be performed by Conestoga-Rovers and Associates (CRA) and Environmental Contractors of Illinois, Inc. CRA has been retained by the companies that agreed to perform the cleanup. A U.S. EPA On-Scene Coordinator will oversee the cleanup and will be on-site the majority of the time. U.S. EPA will be assisted by Ecology and Environment, Inc. and will consult with personnel from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources and Department of Health and Family Services on various aspects of the cleanup.

### When Will the Work Begin?

Work is scheduled to begin Tuesday, September 7, 1999.

### How Long is the Work Expected to Take?

The work is estimated to take about 4 weeks. To minimize potential disturbances to residents, heavy equipment work along the northwest fence will take place on weekdays between 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. Other site activities may begin as early as 7:00 a.m. and end at 6:00 p.m.

### What Kind of Precautions will be Taken to Reduce Dust, Odors, Noise and Vibrations?

**Particulate Matter (i.e., Dust):** Dust will be controlled in several ways. A geotextile curtain will be attached to the fence from the top of the fence to the ground surface, where it will be secured with wooden pegs. In addition, workers will cover stockpiles of excavated soils; limit the size of the active excavation area; and apply water, foaming agents and/or other dust suppressants. Trucks carrying soil will be tarped, and loose dirt will be removed from tires before the trucks leave the site.

Periodically, Marina Road will be misted with water and swept using a covered brush sweeper.

**Monitoring:** Workers will monitor particulate matter (i.e., dust) on a continuing basis along the exterior wall of the condominium building closest to the area being excavated and along the site fence. In addition, workers will also monitor dust on Marina Road during street sweeping operations. To ensure that particulate matter remains within safe levels, workers will compare measured levels against National Ambient Air Quality Assessment Standard. If these levels are exceeded, excavation activities will stop until modifications to work activities can be made.

In addition to the real-time monitoring described above, workers will monitor particulates and lead using eight-hour monitoring stations set up along the fence near the Lake Ridge Apartments and along the fence near the Marina Cliff condominium buildings. Although samples must be sent to a laboratory for analysis, samples will be analyzed on an expedited basis. U.S. EPA expects to receive results approximately a week after the eight-hour sample is taken.

**Odors:** The release of organic vapors - the vapors that sometimes cause odors - will be controlled using the methods described above under Dust.

**Monitoring:** Workers will monitor total organic vapors on a continuing basis along the exterior wall of the condominium building nearest the excavation area and along the site fence. To ensure that vapors remain within safe levels, measured levels will be compared to a standard of 1 part per million. If these levels are exceeded, excavation activities will stop until modifications to work activities can be made.

In addition to the real-time monitoring, workers will monitor for specific compounds using eight-hour monitoring stations set up along the fence near the Lake Ridge Apartments and along the fence near the Marina Cliffs Condominiums. Although samples must be sent to a laboratory for analysis, samples will be analyzed on an expedited basis. U.S. EPA expects to receive results approximately a week after the eight-hour sample is taken.

**Noise:** Residents should expect noise similar to that experienced in past site activities. Residents may hear noise from excavators, large dump trucks, the

street sweeper, and other miscellaneous activities. Noise is expected to be greatest when workers are removing concrete foundation from the ground.

**Monitoring:** Workers will monitor noise on a continuing basis along the exterior wall of the Marina Cliffs condominium building closest to the area being excavated and along the site fence. To ensure that construction noise remains within safe levels, workers will compare measured levels against those recommended by the Wisconsin Division of Health. These recommended levels have been established by the American Conference of Governmental Industrial Hygienists. If these levels are exceeded, excavation activities will stop until modifications to work activities can be made.

**Vibrations:** To help ensure that soil and foundation excavation will be safe to nearby buildings, the Marina Cliff Condominium Association will hire a building inspector at CRA's expense to check the foundations of the buildings nearest to the planned excavation work. In addition, CRA will take photographs of the foundation and survey the elevation of the foundation.

**Monitoring:** During excavation work, the building inspector will continuously monitor vibrations at the exterior wall of the building closest to the area being excavated. The building inspector will compare measured levels against those established by the U.S. Office of Surface Mining and Wisconsin Industry, Labor and Human Relations. If these levels are exceeded, excavation activities will stop until work activities are modified.

U.S. EPA asks that residents with concerns about excessive noise, vibration, odors or dust contact the U.S. EPA site trailer immediately either by phone at 571-1212 or by stopping by during work hours. U.S. EPA will make every effort to address residents' concerns.

## **What Will Happen to Vegetation Near the Fence?**

**Marina Cliff Condominium Property:** Cleanup contractors will try not to disturb vegetation planted on the Marina Cliff Condominium property. In the

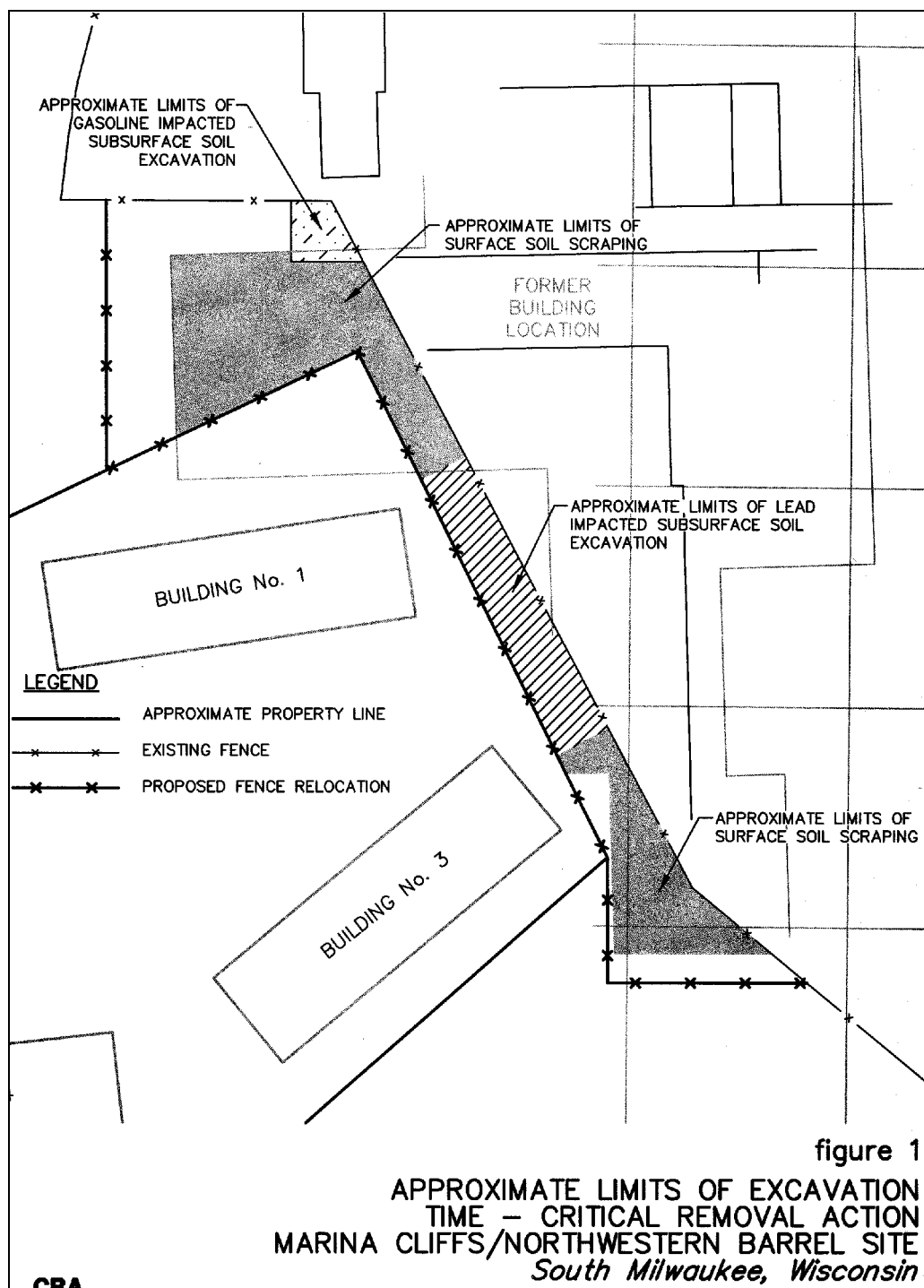
event that vegetation is disturbed, cleanup contractors will restore the area to its prior conditions. Workers will take photos before the soil excavation to document prior conditions.

*Towne Realty, Inc. Property:* Cleanup contractors will remove vegetation (i.e., small bushes, shrubs, flowers) that are located adjacent to the property line on Towne Realty property. The companies conducting cleanup have agreed to address reasonable requests to re-establish similar vegetation on the Marina Cliff Condominium property. If possible, the larger trees planted along the property line will

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saved.

## How Can I Get Additional Information?

For a summary of work to be completed along the northwest fence, please consult site files in the South Milwaukee Public Library, located near the Reference Desk. Look for a document labeled *Summary of Proposed Remaining Activities* under Time-Critical Removal Work Conducted Outside of the Fence on Towne Realty Property (yellow label). You may also look at a copy that will be kept at the site trailer. Note that residents in Marina Cliff Condominium buildings 1, 2, 3 and 4 were mailed a copy of the document with this fact sheet.



## **For Additional Information**

If you would like additional information about the former Northwestern Barrel site, please contact the U.S. EPA site trailer at (414) 571-1212 or:

### ***Cleanup:***

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**Files about the site are available for review at: South Milwaukee Public Library**  
1907 10th Avenue  
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